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Rochester Community Schools to receive \$24,000 in DEQ grants

LANSING—The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) recently announced it is awarding \$24,000 in grant funding to Rochester Community Schools, said state Sen. Mike Bishop. The money is part of the DEQ's Community Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants to nine communities across Michigan.

"This is exciting news for the entire Rochester area," said Bishop, R-Rochester. "The money will bolster the efforts of Rochester Community Schools to be responsible stewards of potentially dangerous substances and promote wiser use of these substances."

The P2 grants will create opportunities to promote waste reduction of school chemicals by removing excess, unused and improperly stored chemicals, and by implementing programs that minimize the use of toxic chemicals and maintain inventory systems.

The communities will be implementing various programs to support their goals, including hazardous chemical disposal, creating chemical inventories and management plans, and developing alternatives to storing chemicals on site. The nine community grant recipients will be required to match the state funds by at least 25 percent.

"The students of Rochester Community Schools, as well as their families, can be encouraged that their schools are going to be among the leaders statewide in implementing sound environmental practices," Bishop said.

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